

## ABSTRACT

A press belt (11; 21; 31; 41; 51; 61; 71; 81) employed for pressurizing a zonal material, endlessly formed by an elastic material with the thickness progressively  
5 reduced from a central pressurizing portion (C<sub>1</sub>; C<sub>2</sub>; C<sub>3</sub>; C<sub>4</sub>; C<sub>5</sub>; C<sub>6</sub>; C<sub>7</sub>) toward end  
pressurizing portions (A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>1</sub>'; A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>'; A<sub>3</sub>, A<sub>3</sub>'; A<sub>4</sub>, A<sub>4</sub>'; A<sub>5</sub>, A<sub>5</sub>'; A<sub>6</sub>, A<sub>6</sub>'; A<sub>7</sub>, A<sub>7</sub>'). A  
shoe press comprising at least the aforementioned press belt, a pressure shoe (82)  
applying pressure to the aforementioned press belt and pressure regulation means (83)  
regulating the pressure of the pressure shoe. Thus, the pressure can be uniformly  
10 applied to a zonal material to be pressurized.